

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for treating HIV-associated dysmorphia/dysmetabolic syndrome (HADDS), comprising administering to a patient in need thereof an effective amount of a substance which is human growth hormone releasing hormone (hGHRH) or a functional derivative, fragment, variant, analog, or salt thereof which retains the biological activity of human growth hormone releasing hormone.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein said substance is administered subcutaneously.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein said substance is administered intramuscularly.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein said HADDS is abnormal visceral adipose tissue (VAT) accumulation and said patient is a HIV/AIDS patient presenting abnormal visceral adipose tissue accumulation.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein said HADDS is dorsocervical adipose tissue accumulation ("buffalo hump") and said patient is a HIV/AIDS patient presenting dorsocervical adipose tissue accumulation ("buffalo hump").

6. The method of claim 1, wherein said HADDS is another type of pathological adipose accumulation associated with HADDS syndrome selected from the group consisting of abnormal accumulation of adipose tissue in submandibular

("horse collar"), supraclavicular, pectoral and/or mammary areas, and/or has lipomas (benign encapsulated fatty tumors, either single or multiple), and said patient is a HIV/AIDS patient presenting with one or more of these abnormal features.

7. A method for treating the pathological accumulation of adipose tissue in specific regional depots, comprising administering to a patient in need thereof an effective amount of a substance which is human growth hormone releasing hormone (hGHRH) or a functional derivative, fragment, variant, analog, or salt thereof which retains the biological activity of human growth hormone releasing hormone.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein said substance is administered subcutaneously.

9. The method of claim 7, wherein said substance is administered intramuscularly.